## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

IN RE: BROILER CHICKEN GROWER LITIGATION

No. 6:17-CV-00033-RJS

This Document Relates To All Cases

The Honorable Robert J. Shelby

## DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO STAY PROCEEDINGS PENDING DECISION ON MDL TRANSFER

Defendants Tyson and Perdue ("Defendants") by and through the undersigned counsel, respectfully move to stay further proceedings in this case pending transfer and consolidation by the Judicial Panel for Multidistrict Litigation ("JPML") into a Multi-District Litigation ("MDL"). In support of this motion, Defendants state as follows:

- 1. A substantively similar action is pending before Judge James C. Dever in the Eastern District of North Carolina. *See Haff Poultry, Inc., et al. v. Koch Foods, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 7:18-CV-00031-D (E.D.N.C.). Plaintiffs moved to consolidate both actions in this Court on March 8, 2018. *See In re: Broiler Chicken Litigation* MDL No. 2838, Doc. 1 (JPML). Defendants do not oppose Plaintiffs' motion.
- 2. A stay pending MDL transfer will help ensure efficiency and avoid inconsistent results given the multiple actions concerning the same subject matter that are poised to be centralized in a MDL proceeding.
- 3. Defendants met and conferred with Plaintiffs regarding this motion, which Plaintiffs oppose.

WHEREFORE, for these reasons and those set forth in the accompanying memorandum in support, Defendants respectfully request that the Court stay further proceedings in this case

pending the JPML's decision to transfer this action into the MDL proceeding. A supporting memorandum is attached.

Dated: March 23, 2018 Respectfully submitted,

## /s/John D. Harkrider

John D. Harkrider (admitted *pro hac vice*) **AXINN, VELTROP & HARKRIDER LLP (NY)**114 W 47th St
New York, NY 10036
212-728-2210
Fax: 212-728-2201
jharkrider@axinn.com

Michael L. Keeley (admitted *pro hac vice*) **AXINN, VELTROP & HARKRIDER LLP (DC)**950 F St, NW

Washington, DC 20004

202-721-5414

Fax: 202-912-4701

mkeeley@axinn.com

Mark C. Tatum (admitted pro hac vice)
Michael S. Cargnel (admitted pro hac vice)
Robert T. Adams (admitted pro hac vice)
SHOOK HARDY & BACON, LLP (MO)
2555 Grand Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-474-6550
Fax: 816-421-5547
mtatum@shb.com
mcargnel@shb.com
rtadams@shb.com

Lawrence R. Murphy, Jr, OBA # 17681 RICHARDS & CONNOR, PLLP 525 S Main St, 12th Flr Tulsa, OK 74103 918-585-2394 Fax: 918-585-1449 lmurphy@richardsconnor.com

Michael Burrage, OBA #1350 Patricia Sawyer, OBA #30712 **WHITTEN BURRAGE** 1215 Classen Dr

Oklahoma City, OK 73103

405-516-7800 Fax: 405-516-7859

mburrage@whittenburragelaw.com psawyer@whittenburragelaw.com

Counsel for Defendants Tyson Foods, Inc., Tyson Chicken, Inc., Tyson Breeders, Inc., Tyson Poultry, Inc.

J. Douglas Baldridge (admitted *pro hac vice*) Lisa Jose Fales (admitted *pro hac vice*) Andrew T. Hernacki (admitted *pro hac vice*) Robert P. Davis (admitted *pro hac vice*)

VENABLE, LLP (DC)

600 Massachusetts Ave, NW Washington, DC 20001 202-344-4264

Fax: 202-344-8300 athernacki@venable.com jbaldridge@venable.com ljfales@venable.com rpdavis@venable.com

Leonard L. Gordon (admitted *pro hac vice)* **VENABLE, LLP (NY)** 

1270 Ave of the Americas, 24th Flr New York, NY 10020 212-370-6252

Fax: 212-307-5598 lgordon@venable.com

Kevin R. Donelson, OBA #12647

FELLERS SNIDER

100 N Broadway, Ste 1700 Oklahoma City, OK 73102 405-232-0621

Fax: 405-232-9659

kdonelson@fellerssnider.com

Counsel for Defendants Perdue Farms, Inc.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

On March 23, 2018, I electronically transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing document to the Clerk of Court for filing using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

/s/ John D. Harkrider